

charter member and has also served as President of the Clayton Ladies Auxiliary on several different occasions, which is a testimony to her exceptional leadership qualities and hard work. Julia has also shined as an active and enthusiastic member in her local church. Fire service is a long standing tradition in her family and Julia Mast has done a praiseworthy job of keeping this tradition going.

James L. Cubbage, Jr. and Julia Mast are both exemplary models of commitment and excellence and valuable members of the Delaware community. I salute James L. Cubbage, Jr. and Julia Mast for their efforts to keep the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association and Ladies Auxiliary a strong and vital part of Delaware.

THE HORRIFIC ACTIONS OF TERRORISTS

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, when the prayers are said; when the tears are dried; when the bodies are buried—we must go on remembering. Always.

The war against terrorism has been casually engaged for nearly thirty years. Now we must get serious and win it.

There are only two sides in this war, ours and the enemy's. To those who believe that there is a neutral ground we must say that you are on the side of the enemy and we will punish you. To those who believe that they can quietly harbor and help the terrorists we must say that you are the enemy and our military will bring you to your knees. To those who commit these acts we must say that we will find you and kill you.

America has been changed forever through this tragedy. If falls upon us to rebuild the confidence in our society that great nations will not cower, that you will be safe again, that freedom works!

TRIBUTE TO ROBERTA "ROBBIE" RADER

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, all too often in the news, the only young people we hear about are those who are in trouble for one reason or another. It is an honor today to rise and share with my Colleagues information about an outstanding young woman in my district who demonstrates exemplary character and leadership skills in her Southwest Missouri school and community.

This exceptional young leader is Roberta Rader, or "Robbie" as everyone in Mount Vernon, Missouri knows her. In many ways she is just a typical teenager in her senior year at Mount Vernon High School. But at the same time, this typical teen is doing extraordinary things. Robbie is active in Student Council where she serves as the Community Service Chair. Because of her personal commitment she has helped build houses through

Habitat For Humanity and has volunteered at various shelters for the underprivileged in the community. Robbie also serves as President of her school's National Honor Society and was on the three-person team from Mt. Vernon that captured the state Future Farmers of America forestry championship this year. To further demonstrate that she is a well rounded person, Robbie has lettered for two years on the school's track team, is a district champion in hurdles and will be co-valedictorian of her Senior class next spring.

Such a rich menu of accomplishments has not gone unnoticed at the national level. Robbie was just chosen to be the Co-Chair of the Executive Board of the National Association of Student Councils, a position in which she represents seven states. As a member of the national board, she also participates in setting national goals for student councils and directing those activities as co-chair.

It is clear that this young lady is motivated and focused. Part of her commitment is seen in a personal habit of keeping a list of her goals with her everywhere she goes. Robbie has to update the list every six months! Our country would benefit if more could achieve their goals as quickly and stay as committed and focused as Miss Rader.

Robbie has benefitted from a supportive family and caring teachers who have encouraged and guided her along the path of learning and achievement. Robbie continues to work relentlessly toward her goals, earning the respect of classmates and teachers. It is a testament to the strength of her character that despite all of her accomplishments, her teachers still praise her as "humble."

Robbie Rader is leadership in action. It is a comfort to know that young people such as Robbie are preparing themselves today to our future leaders. I know that my Colleagues join me in commending Robbie for her national office and her commitment to excellence in her personal life.

ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, September 11, 2001, is a date that will forever be etched in our memories as a day our very way of life was attacked. These acts of cowardice took the lives of innocent souls away from their families and friends. My thoughts and prayers go out to the families who lost loved ones and my thanks go out to all of the emergency personnel who risked their lives to save others.

The perpetrators believe that our weakness is our freedom. They are so wrong. This will unite our country and they will soon know that freedom is our greatest strength. We should support President Bush and we should expeditiously make available all necessary means so that justice can be carried out. God Bless America.

TRIBUTE TO WEST HERNANDO MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. KAREN L. THURMAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to pay tribute to the remarkable students and faculty of West Hernando Middle School. West Hernando Middle is located in Hernando County, Florida which is one of the fastest growing counties in the state and the nation. The faculty at West Hernando Middle works extremely hard to serve students with highly diverse educational needs, with 23% of its students receiving Exceptional Student Education services ranging from Educational Alternative Treatment classes for gifted students.

In 1995, West Hernando resembled many other middle schools in the district. It was hindered with problems such as overcrowding and poor socioeconomic conditions and it became evident that change was needed. In that same year, Ken Pritz was appointed the new principal of the school. Along with their new principal, students at West Hernando Middle received a new approach to learning. This new approach was founded on the shared vision of the staff that, "We at West Hernando Middle believe that all students can and will learn."

Building on this vision, Ann Bristol, the graphic arts instructor at the school, came up with the theme known as "Dream Extreme." Ms. Bristol, a teacher known for her infectious enthusiasm and ability to motivate, encouraged her students to learn by creating many different exciting activities. Her unique teaching methods soon spread throughout the school, consuming the faculty and students.

"Dream Extreme" became reality when in the 1998–99 school year the sixth-grade Gemini Team accepted a challenge to build an 87-foot wooden foot bridge over a water retention area adjacent to the school. Students began using the Internet as well as cable television technology to research and implement the design and construction of the bridge. The project, known as "Bridging the Gap in Education," was a huge success and the bridge was honored as the cover story for the March 2000 issue of Cable in the Classroom. The entire project was evidence that the transformation of abstract knowledge to an actual applied and concrete learning process had indeed "bridged the gap in education."

During the 1999–2000 academic year, the Gemini Team embarked on a second project, equally as interesting, just as difficult and even more ambitious than the first. Working alongside the Southwest Florida Water Management District, students began researching the process of xeriscaping (a form of landscaping involving drought resistant vegetation) as well as the compatibility of various species of plants and animals for the construction of a 60x40x30-foot aviary to be placed in the center of the school grounds. Students then selected the appropriate plant life and ground cover native to the region in order to recreate a natural habitat for tropical birds which would live in the aviary. By actively involving the students, the faculty at West Hernando Middle School provided their students with a better understanding of environmental concepts. The students have enjoyed the hard work involved